

## WI Farm to School Newsletter

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# Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

**October 6, 2015 | Happy National Farm to School Month!**

In today's Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter, you will find:

- [New Tools and Resources](#)
- [Webinars, Conferences and Events](#)
- [Farm to School Job Openings](#)

## Celebrate!

Farm to School Month is officially underway! A big thanks for your enthusiasm as we kicked things off. Make sure to share how you are celebrating National Farm to School Month by using the hashtags **#wifarmtoschool**, **#farmtoschool** and **#F2SMonth**.

This month, we will feature four WI Farm to School newsletters, including an issue highlighting Farm to Preschool, an issue highlighting the WI AmeriCorps Farm to School Program, as well as some behind-the-scenes information on how you can be a part of the 2016 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference.





Do you need ideas on how to celebrate National Farm to School Month? Check out the National Farm to School Network [Communications Toolkit](#).

Join us at noon on Thursday, October 22, 2015

# GREAT LAKES

# GREAT APPLE



There is still plenty of time to sign up for the Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch on October 22. Join over 150,000 Great Lakes students who are already signed up to celebrate local foods and farm to school by crunching into an apple! More information on the [Facebook Page](#), and a short registration link [here](#).



### Growing Healthy Children School Garden Photo Contest!

Now through October 21, 2015

Don't forget to post your favorite school garden photo and caption on facebook under #GrowingHealthyChildren by October 21! WSGI will announce the winning photo on Great Lakes Great Apple Crunch day, and the winning school will receive 20 free copies of the Growing Healthy Children toolkit, as well as a school garden care package! Teachers can also download a pdf of the book at any time. Here is a link with all of the information about the photo contest, and to download the

book: <http://www.communitygroundworks.org/content/favorite-wsgi-resources>

Caption for example photo above -

Fourth graders joined up with the high school Food Processing class to harvest

257# of potatoes that were sent from the garden to the school kitchen! This is enough potatoes to serve 6 meals! -Mrs. Lesneski's fourth grade class, Shell Lake School District

## New Tools and Resources



### [Chop! Chop! Culinary Skills for Wisconsin-Grown Produce in School Meals](#)

Six short training videos take you through a variety of different Wisconsin-grown produce and how to use more of it in your school lunch room. Videos include information on school nutrition requirements met by each fruit or vegetable, basic culinary preparation techniques, creative menu ideas, and tips for using 'cosmetically imperfect seconds.'

Check out the [October Wisconsin School Garden Initiative newsletter](#). This month's theme is "Growing Garlic"...plus lots of links about Farm to School Month!





### USDA Farm to School Report

The press release below reads: **New Report Shows Farm to School Grants Have Increased Likelihood that 6.9 Million Kids Will Eat More Healthy Food at School, Created New Local Market Opportunities for Farmers.** You already know that the farm to school grants USDA distributes help inspire healthy eating habits and create market opportunities for producers. But the USDA wanted to make sure you were aware that today Secretary Vilsack announced the release of a new report on the USDA Farm to School Grant Program. The report summarizes grants made and activities undertaken over the last three years, and features stories and anecdotes from USDA-funded farm to school projects all across the country. As grantees, some of you may be featured, and as tireless supporters of farm to school programs, you all surely have influenced and impacted many of the projects we've funded over the years. **Thank you.** The USDA is so inspired by the work being done by grantees to make sure children have access to healthy, local food at school, and we're equally inspired by the role played by the National Farm to School Network in making sure the farm to school movement is vibrant, strong and connected.

## Webinars, Conferences and Events

### Save the Date

### 2016 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference

Save the date for the 2016 [National Farm to Cafeteria Conference](#), to be held **June 1-4, 2016** in **Madison, Wisconsin**. The National Farm to Cafeteria Conference is a biennial event that convenes a diverse group of stakeholders from across the farm to cafeteria movement who are working to source local food for institutional cafeterias and foster a culture of food and agricultural literacy across America. The conference is hosted by the National Farm to School Network, in partnership with local host organizations. More information to come soon.





## Spoiler Alert!

Check out next week's edition of the WI Farm to School Newsletter for information on how you can get behind the scenes at the 2016 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference!

Hint...get your video cameras and smart phones ready...



## MadCity ACF

**Monday, October 12th, Madison College Gourmet Dining Room, 5:30-7:00pm**

Irene Pawlisch, Food Service Director/Chef, from Taher will present ACF Chefs Moves to Schools and how to make a chef school match. Beth Hanna, Training and Outreach Specialist for the Wisconsin School Garden Initiative, from Community Groundworks will present on School Gardens and Farm to School “Got Dirt” activities. Hear from the Chefs and teachers that have partnered in the past. Get ideas and lessons for the classroom or demonstration ideas for a cafeteria. “Kids ate foods they wouldn’t eat at home. A few kids took the recipes home and made them with their families. The Chef made everything fun.” – 3rd Grade Teacher

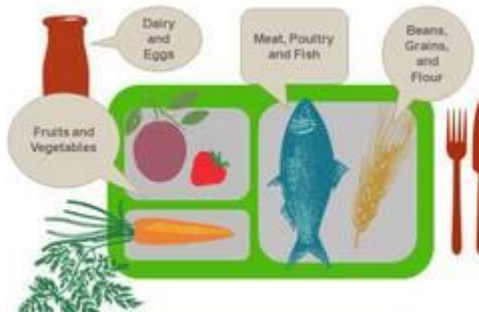
Most activities include showing the raw product, relating back to core curriculum, having a tasting sample premade, demonstrating the recipe or partial recipe, and talking to students about their personal food experiences. Always having fun!

### **Webinar: National Farm to School Network**

#### [Farm to School 101](#)

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 12-12:30pm CT

Mark your calendar for our Farm to School 101 webinar! On Tuesday, October 13 we’ll discuss the basics of the farm to school movement, its core elements, and how it is working to connect 23.5 million children to local food in schools all over the country. [Register here](#).



## Farm to School Job Openings



**WI Farm to School AmeriCorps Positions now Available for the 2015-2016 School Year!**

There are still a few open spots for the WI Farm to School AmeriCorps Program. Please contact [Dominique.bradley@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Dominique.bradley@wisconsin.gov) if you are interested.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or [sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov).